



**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF AUDITOR-CONTROLLER**

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J. TYLER McCAULEY
AUDITOR-CONTROLLER

February 23, 2007

TO: Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Chairman
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

FROM: J. Tyler McCauley 
Auditor-Controller

SUBJECT: **GROUP HOME PROGRAM MONITORING REPORT – LARK GROUP HOME**

We have completed a review of Lark Group Home (Group Home or Agency) operated by Lark DMC, Incorporated. The Group Home contracts with the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and the Probation Department (Probation).

Lark Group Home is a six-bed facility, which provides care for boys ages 9-17 years who exhibit behavioral, social, and emotional difficulties. At the time of the monitoring visit, Lark Group Home was not providing services for any Los Angeles County children.

Lark Group Home is located in San Bernardino County.

Scope of Review

The purpose of the review is to evaluate the Agency's facility and environment. Additionally, since Lark Group Home was not providing services for any Los Angeles County children at the time of our visit, the monitoring review covered basic child safety and licensing issues and included only a facility inspection.

Summary of Findings

The Agency needs to remove a tree stump from the lawn area of the backyard. Attached is a detailed description of our inspection of the facility.

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

Review of Report

We discussed our report with the Agency's management. In response to the recommendation made in the report, the Agency's management completed a corrective action plan (attached) which we approved. We thank the management and staff for their cooperation during our review.

If you have any questions, please contact me or have your staff contact Mike Pirolo at (626) 293-1110.

JTM:MP:CC:dl

http://auditor.co.la.ca.us/group_home.asp

Attachments

c: David E. Janssen, Chief Administrative Officer
Patricia S. Ploehn, Director, DCFS
Robert B. Taylor, Chief Probation Officer
Raymond Gordon, Executive Director, Lark Group Home
Public Information Office
Audit Committee

**Lark Group Home
165 East Virginia Street
Rialto, California 92376
Phone: (909) 820-0386
License Number: 360911164
Rate Classification Level: 8**

I. Facility and Environment

Method of assessment – Observation

Comments:

Lark Group Home is located in a residential community. The exterior of the Group Home is well maintained. The front and back yards are clean and adequately landscaped; however, a rough and jagged tree stump is protruding from the grass area in the backyard presenting a possible safety hazard.

The interior of the Group Home is well maintained. The common quarters are neat and clean. There is adequate furniture and lighting in the Group Home. The Group Home provides a home-like environment.

Children's bedrooms are well maintained. The rooms are clean and orderly and have age-appropriate personalized decorations. There is adequate furniture, lighting, and storage space. Window coverings and window screens are in good repair. The mattresses are comfortable, and the beds all have a full complement of linens. Children's sleeping arrangements are appropriate.

The Group Home maintains age appropriate and accessible recreational equipment. There are also board games, a TV, and a DVD player. Books and resource materials, including a computer with a variety of programs, are also available.

The Group Home maintains a sufficient supply of perishable and non perishable foods.

Recommendation

- 1. Lark Group Home management remove the tree stump from the backyard.**

**LARK GROUP HOME
165 E. VIRGINIA ST.
RIALTO CA 92376
(909) 820-0386
LIC #360911164**

January 17, 2007

**County Of Los Angeles
Department of Auditor-Controller
500 West Temple St 515A
Los Angeles CA 90012-2766**

Subject: CAP

1. FACILITY AND ENVIRONMENT

**EXTERIOR AND GROUNDS:
(TREE STUMP PROTRUDING)**

TREE STRUMP HAS BEEN REMOVED

Respectfully,


Raymond L. Gordon